

THE FRENCH ARMY REVIEWED.

A Grand Military Display in the Presence of the Marshal President.

Soldiers and Citizens in Thousands at Longchamps.

Magnificent Toilets and Fine Equipages.

The Military Physique of the Nation Deteriorating.

How the Soldiers Looked.

Inferior to the German and Not Equal to the Spaniard.

MacMahon on the War Horse of Magenta.

A BRILLIANT STAFF—THE MARCH PAST.

Effect of a Rain Storm on the Junketing Parisians.

PARIS, June 13, 1875.

France may well be proud of the body of troops which was reviewed to-day at Longchamps. It is amazing that she should have apparently recovered from the series of unbroken disasters which seemed to have annihilated her military power so short a time ago.

A GRAND SCENE ON THE REVIEW GROUND.

Nothing could be more beautiful as a specimen of the pomp of warfare than the entertainment which delighted hundreds of Parisians this morning. Handsome carriages were filled with members of the upper classes of society. Gayly dressed pedestrians were present in serried masses, from the beautiful Church of the Madeleine to the furthest limits of the Bois de Boulogne. The suburbs poured forth their contingent of the sightseers. Scarcely indeed, for the interest which the French people take in the matter of soldiering remains unimpaired, notwithstanding the fact that the fearful but magnificent toy, the *Grande Armée*, which was inherited by the present generation from the heroes of the First Empire, has been broken and dragged in the dust.

THE NATION A UNIT AT THE SPECTACLE.

Numbers of people having no possible concern with politics—comfortable tradespeople and laughing girls out for a holiday—were present to see the show, although the cost of the most ordinary conveyance to the grounds must have exceeded a month's income of many of them.

THE GLORY OF PAST PAGEANTS.

Reviews are now the only relic of the royal pageantry which struck the populace of France with awe and admiration under the old monarchies, and the people are fond of outdoor amusements.

THE PERFECTION OF OUTDOOR BEAUTY.

The scene to-day was perfect. The color of the feast trees in the Bois de Boulogne, laden with blossoms, and of the troops in their varied uniforms, made a brilliant background, which must have had a subtle charm for all those who are fond of a display of man-milinery.

THE MILITARY PICTURE.

There were the stalwart cuirassiers in their glittering armor and helmets, the light cavalry in blue and silver, the dapper regiments of the line in their red trousers, and the mounted gendarmes, the finest household troops in Europe.

AN OLD PRIDE IN PROCESS OF DECAY.

But, looking beneath the surface, it was easy to see that the old French pride in military life is dying out. The drummers and fifers did their best. Sometimes full bands burst out in the performance of a gallant air, but the appearance of the soldiers was after all weary and dejected. A great effort has been made lately to have them march well in line, but it has not been quite successful. The easy, careless stride of a well drilled infantry man has been exchanged for a stately gait.

THE MUSTER ROLL—ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

The number of troops in the field to-day is estimated at 40,000—less than half as large as the force which continues concentrated around Paris—a fact which shows that the French government does not yet feel sure of having achieved a decisive victory over the revolutionary elements which are still smouldering in Belleville and at La Roquette.

MACMAHON'S LESSON TO THE PEOPLE.

This is the second display of military strength which has been made already under the Marshalate. It means a distinct warning to the French people and the surrounding nations that MacMahon is well equipped; that he will uphold his power by the sword against any attempt to disturb his rule of government; that he is amply sufficient to put down a revolutionary rising by the strong hand throughout the length and breadth of France, but that he is inefficient against the only foreign enemy by whom he is likely to be opposed.

THE GERMAN ARMY STILL SUPERIOR.

It is freely canvassed by competent judges

that the superiority of the German army over the French cannot be contested by the best friends of France. It is impossible to dispute the German supremacy, and no French officer of any experience would dream of doing so.

PHYSIOLOGICAL CAUSES.

The physical strength of the French is inferior to that of the German or the Spaniard, who is, possibly, a finer soldier than the German.

WHAT THE FRENCH HAVE TO LEARN.

In the first days of their pride and of power, when they were the masters of Europe, the French were never remarkable for their knowledge of military tactics, nor for their orderly marching, and there is no evidence of improvement. They are still behind the English and the American. Nor do they seem capable of bearing the hardships of a long period of service, or to possess the enduring but somewhat irregular strides of the Carlists which enable the latter to make such rapid movements by wonderful marches.

THE FRENCH ARTILLERY.

There was a marked improvement in the artillery, and, indeed, this arm of the service has received more attention from the present authorities in Paris.

THE CAVALRY.

The French have some good light cavalry horses, but they do not, generally, ride well, and the chasseur is rather too heavy a weapon for the use of a light man.

GIVES IT UP.

It has been confidently said by a French general in high command that he doubted if the army could be formed in line of battle against the Germans, and that he believed a battle between them would be lost by the French before it was fought.

THE PRESIDENT IN THE FIELD.

The Marshal-President, MacMahon, arrived on the ground from Versailles. He did not enter Paris. His carriage stopped at the gate Surcouf, where he mounted a horse, the animal, it is said, which carried him on the field of Magenta. He rode at a brisk pace to the race course, his aides-de-camp following him.

THE MARSHAL'S UNIFORM.

The Marshal wore the splendid uniform of his rank and was decorated with the broad red ribbon of the Cross of the Legion of Honor and the Order of the Golden Fleece.

HIS BIRTHDAY.

MacMahon completes the sixty-seventh year of his age to-day.

THE DISCOMFORTS OF POWER—HUNDREDS OF DEADHEADS.

The President was besieged with applications for tickets of admission to the review ground. Each member of the Assembly—there are about seven hundred—sent a request to the President for five tickets. The average number of the members of the French Jockey Club is seven hundred, and the members of the club invited visitors by right, because their organization is identical with the French Society for the Encouragement of Racing, to whom the grand stand belongs on a review day, and the stand was placed at the disposition of the government authorities, who in turn invited the members of the club.

IN BIVOUAC ON THE BOIS.

Several regiments bivouacked in the Bois de Boulogne last night, though the weather was wet and windy.

THE CHIEF COMMANDER.

General Ladmirault, Governor of Paris, commanded the troops, assisted by six generals of division, thus:—Generals De Montauban, Lebrun, Deligny, Bataille, Lallemand and De Sartigue.

EXERCISING WITH EMPTY STOMACHS.

There was no breakfast before the review. The innovation has been, it is said, dictated by republican parsimony.

THE MARCH PAST.

Marshal MacMahon arrived on the ground at three o'clock precisely. The march past was executed immediately.

A MISCELLANEOUS BLOCK.

Thousands of people were prevented from seeing the manoeuvre. The carriages were blocked in a dense mass.

The members of the diplomatic corps were present, with many notabilities from Paris.

NOT SO VIVACIOUS AS FORMERLY.

An order of the day was read in all the barracks of Paris yesterday forbidding the soldiers to cry out or cheer while under arms; therefore, the enthusiastic cheering which used to welcome Napoleon when he rode down the lines was not heard.

REWARDED FOR EXTRA DUTY.

The troops received a half day's extra pay for their part in the review.

Half an hour before the arrival of President MacMahon, rations of cold meat, cheese and wine were served out to the soldiers.

A CLOUDY CLOSING.

The day ended with rain. Much of the grand scene of re-entry to Paris was consequently spoiled. There was music; colors were flying, but the gay dresses of the sightseers presented a pitiable appearance.

GOOD HUMORED, AS USUAL.

There were the usual humorous incidents. Several volunteers "of one year" fell from their horses.

All passed off quietly and satisfactorily.

INCENDIARY FIRE.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, June 13, 1875. The woolen mill of Root & Co., at Conservville, was burned about two o'clock this morning. Loss, \$50,000; no insurance. The fire was caused by an incendiary.

BEECHER'S SIN.

Astounding Developments in the Great Scandal Case.

IMPORTANT EVIDENCE DISCOVERED.

The Poison Story Fully Confirmed by a Druggist.

"MAY 13, 1871—1 OZ. PRUSSIC ACID.....50 CENTS."

Eye-Witnesses to the Criminal Conversation.

A STORY ABOUT A LOUNGE.

What Two Upholsterers Saw in the Tilton Dwelling.

When the adjournment in the great scandal took place on Friday last it was the general impression that the end was near at hand; that the jury would be charged by Judge Nelson and the case be given to them for consideration certainly by the end of this week. The popular feeling was one of gloom at the thought that there was a probability of a verdict in the case, and that the whole matter would be allowed to drop out of mind. Of course the speculations as to what the decision of the jury will be were and are still as varied as ever, according to the bias of the parties to the discussion.

Since Friday night, however, the aspect has somewhat changed in the eyes of a certain few, and there appears now to be a prospect of an effort being made to re-open the case for the purpose of admitting some newly discovered evidence on the plaintiff's side. Should this be done there is no telling when the final scene in this case will be arrived at. That this evidence is most important all who read it will admit, and for the benefit of the readers of the *HERALD* it is given herewith. That it would have been better to have introduced on the trial previous to the present time is certain, but it still remains in the discretion of the judge as to whether it shall, even at this late hour, be allowed to get in. It is unmistakably confirmed both the evidence of Mr. Frank Moulton, as also that of his wife, in reference to the question of Mr. Beecher having poison in his possession, and that, too, beyond a doubt, for as will be seen by reading the statement of Mr. G. G. Leys, the chemist and druggist, he positively asserts that he sold Mr. Beecher a bottle of hydrocyanic acid, or, as it is commonly termed, prussic acid. He has shown to the writer his ledger, wherein is written an entry of the sale to Mr. Beecher of this

DUALITY POISON.

It will be remembered in this connection that Mr. Moulton used in his "statement" the following language:—
"Having made an allusion to Beecher's suicide, it may be well for me to state here the full circumstances of his confession concerning his prussic acid. He told me—and repeated to another in my presence—that he had written twice in his own study a poison, which he would take if the story of his crime with Elizabeth should ever come to the public. He told me of a visit which he had made to a photographer's gallery, where he learned that one of the employees had mistaken a glass of poison for a glass of water, and, having taken and drunk it, had fallen dead. He told me that he had dropped the glass. Beecher said that what he wanted for himself, and under plea of making some photographic experiments, he procured some of this same poison from the photographer, which he told me he intended to use if the revelation of his crime should be made. And then," he said, "it would be simply a matter of time before he died of apoplexy; but God and you and I will know what caused my death."

The *HERALD* was not Mr. Beecher purchased this poison. It is now known that he had been accused of seducing Mrs. Tilton and bearing out the statement of Moulton that Mr. Beecher was "repaired" in case the contingency should arise by the publication of the facts in the case, as had been threatened to make away with himself. It also sustains Mrs. Moulton's evidence that Beecher told her he had some powder or poison in his possession which he was prepared to use in case the necessity should arise.

In order that this point shall be fully understood that particular part of Mrs. Moulton's evidence relating to it is given after Mr. Leys's statement. The value of this evidence to the plaintiff will be readily comprehended, and there is every reason to believe that the most determined effort will be made by his counsel to get it admitted before the case is finally given over to the jury.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT POINT.

In addition to the evidence already referred to in regard to the purchasing of the prussic acid by Mr. Beecher two other persons were found by the writer who can testify positively to the fact that Mr. Beecher did have improper intercourse with Mrs. Tilton, as is charged against him on the trial. The whole scheme of the defence has been evidently based on the belief that no one could prove the actual act of commission. Now, however, at the last moment, it would seem as though the gates have been at work to bring to light the fact, and to bring forth some positive and conclusive evidence that the story told by Theodore Tilton, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moulton and Joseph Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Tilton's brother, is the true one. In reference to the statement given by the man who saw the transactions of which he speaks it is but proper to state that his name has been suppressed in order that the man shall not be injured in his business, as stated in the account of the interview.

THE CORROBORATION.

In addition to the statement of this man there is given an interview had with a man named Price, to whom reference is made in the statement, and which corroborates in all essential particulars the facts given as to the scene that occurred in the Tilton parlor.

This evidence, if admitted, must have a decided influence on the jury, and will leave them scarcely any room to bring in other than a verdict which must condemn Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

THE POISON TRACED.

Having been informed that a Mr. George C. Leys, who formerly kept the drug store at the corner of Fulton and Clinton streets, Brooklyn, had, at one time, sold Rev. Henry Ward Beecher some kind of poison at about the date when the first exposure of his intimacy with Mrs. Tilton was threatened, a reporter of the *HERALD* endeavored to find Mr. Leys. It was discovered that he is now carrying on a drug business at Whitehouse, L. I. There he was sought on Saturday last, when first spoken to on the subject declined to give any information, saying that he had been acquainted with Mr. Beecher for a number of years and had been pretty intimate with him. He should, therefore, prefer to be left out of the case, and, in fact, if he knew anything about Mr. Beecher and to his detriment he should not tell it. "Of course," said Mr. Leys, "if I had been called on as a witness I should have answered all the questions that were put to me truthfully. But now that the case is closed I do not see that I ought to say whether I did or did not sell Mr. Beecher any poison."

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usual formality of having a prescription. Mr. Leys at this time declined to say any more and the *HERALD* representative left.

SEARCHING THE BOOKS.

The next move was to the store formerly occupied by Mr. Leys, but now carried on by Meeker & Shea. These gentlemen, when the errand was explained to them, kindly gave all the facilities in their power, and placed their books at the disposal of the reporter for the time being. A careful search was made through them, but no entry could be found of a prescription either.

Feeling, however, confident that Mr. Leys knew more than he was willing to state, a visit was paid to some of his personal friends and their good offices brought into requisition, in order to get Mr. Leys to make the desired avowal. Accordingly, another visit was made to Whitehouse yesterday, which resulted in a perfect confirmation by Mr. Leys of the facts already surmised. Mr. Leys after being conversed with for a considerable time, and through the pressure brought to bear on him by his friends, who were present at the interview, finally concluded to give the whole story, saying that he did not see, now that the evidence is all in, that he was committing any wrong to tell what he did know. He therefore, in answer to the questions put to him, made the following statement:—

It is with the greatest reluctance that I speak about any transactions that have occurred between Mr. Beecher and myself, and it is only by reason of the great influence you have brought to bear on me that I am induced to give you the information you seek. In the first place, however, let me say that up to the present I have been induced to keep silent on this matter, through my friendship and the personal regard that I entertained for Mr. Beecher during my acquaintance with him, and which has extended over a period of many years.

MRS. MOULTON CONFIRMED.

You have asked me the question whether I ever sold Mr. Beecher any poison. To this I must reply that I have and I will tell you how it occurred, and how the fact was brought to my recollection and the whole history of the matter. It was as follows:—During the course of the trial, and while Mrs. Moulton was giving her testimony on the witness stand I was one morning sitting in my store here, and reading the account of her testimony as given in the *HERALD*, when I came to the paragraph in which she related to Beecher telling her that he had a powder or poison at home on his library table, which he was prepared to take at any time. As I read this it came across my mind like a flash that I had sold some poison to Mr. Beecher in the year 1871.

I turned round on my chair and spoke to Rev. J. Leers, a Presbyterian clergyman, who was on a visit to my family and who at the time was sitting with me. I called his attention to the paragraph and said, "Do you see Mrs. Moulton testifies that Beecher told her that he had some poison in his room, and that he intended to make away with himself. I believe I sold him some stuff that he could do it with too." So impressed was I with the fact that I called my son and told him to bring me my ledger, in which I kept Mr. Beecher's account.

THE ENTRY OF THE SALE.

When he brought it to me I said to Mr. Beecher, "Now, we shall soon see if I did sell Mr. Beecher any poison, for it will be entered here. I feel sure that I did, but let us look to make assurance doubly sure."

Mr. Beecher was, like myself, somewhat excited over the matter, and he expressed a great horror at the thought even that it could be possible for a man like Rev. Henry Ward Beecher to contemplate putting himself out of existence. I turned to the account, and there, to my great grief and sorrow, I found the following entry, which fully confirmed my previous recollections:—

MAY 13, 1871—ONE OUNCE OF PRUSSIC ACID, FIFTY CENTS.

And which I now show you, and which I have shown to some of my friends, and he tried to persuade me not to speak of the fact to any one, and I gave him a promise finally not to say a word about the sale of the poison to Mr. Beecher while the trial was going on, being convinced that it was my duty to keep silent unless called upon by the proper person. As I have previously stated, give you this information now most unwillingly.

SEEKING A KNOWLEDGE OF POISONS.

The circumstances attending the sale of the prussic acid to Mr. Beecher were vividly brought to my mind immediately I saw the entry in the ledger, although from the time I sold the poison until the moment I read Mrs. Moulton's evidence, I had forgotten the fact. I remember Mr. Beecher coming into my store on the day mentioned and chatting with me, as was often his habit, when, after we had talked on general topics, the conversation was turned by Mr. Beecher to the subject of poisons. He questioned me about the several kinds and asked about their component parts, their general effect, &c. After talking with him on these points for some little time he made the inquiry as to what the effect of arsenic would be on the human system, what dose it would require to destroy life, what the symptoms would be after it was taken into the stomach, and what appearance the body would present after death.

I explained all these points to him, and he then asked me if I did not think arsenic would be the best thing for a man to take if he wanted to make an end of his life. To this I replied that I thought not. Prussic acid would be, in my opinion, the quietest and surest thing to take. We still kept on talking on poisons, and he again asked me what the symptoms would be after it was taken into the stomach, and what appearance the body would present after death.

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